satisfaction and a settling int. sents. as though semething would now come that no

upon him on a previous occasion, saying had not rise to defend himself, but should leaven his character to the public judgment, both i and out of the flouse.

He then went into an examination of the bill, and explained what it was and what it

After a while his attention seemed to turn naturally to Lowe and Horsman, who had been opposing the bill and attacking him at the

After a while his attention seemed to turn naturally to Lowe and Horsman, who had been opposing the bill and attacking him at the same time.

He hit them a little, and then, after a lift, he hit them again. He commented especially upon Mr. Lowe. It was not long before the House was convulsed with merriment at his quiet remarks; but it was no lose to Lowe and a serious matter to tiersman.

He depleted the disappointed ambitions of both, He described their was war land eccentric coppess. They were mored for their unaccommodating lacongruities, their inamility to agree with anytooly, or even with themselves. They were the Orsons or polities. Their opinion projected in all directions, bristing like their party occause they expected no mere favors. Lowe had been to Australia, and was taunted with importing "Botany Bay" polities, lie pletured the ingularious Horsons to his side, little was successful only in hooking the member from Caine, Lowe. Thus re-inforced the fwo salided forth from their retreat and orined a party against their old associates and against the lieform bill. This descontant, bellingered, and hodeless to his side, little from their retreat and orined a party against their old associates and against the lieform bill. This descontant, bellingered, and hedelong-needs pair composed a loody with headly only be likened to the Scotch terrier which was so beyened with hair that it was impossible to tell its head-from its tail. The House could not resist this infectious drollers, coming from the lips of a man so composed and moderate in manner as Mr. Bright. It troke into convenions of hughter, Mr. Flight, It troke into convenions of heads for possible to tell its head-from its tail.

The House could not resist this infectious and order, coming from the lips of a man so composed and moderate in manner as Mr. Bright, It troke into convenions of hughter, and every by less tollowed his example. No note lessein of the seen, and the most literal reproduction of all that was said and done would fall to account to

sympathy with the crater himself, who was dealing with unscrippilous assailants, all con-spired to greate an atmosphere of exhibita-tion whose influences were irresestible.

But yet the climax was after all, scarcely reached; for the seence; proceeded with the dissertion of Mr. Lowe with further. He said his subject illustrated a figure of speech he himself (Lowe) had introduced, wherein he spoke of a certain animal which took the color

go the rock on which it Lowe came from a little the west of Fugiand, we some 170 or 180 vaters, eat was the man who or present member of the could have song his groot Commons, if he had the Lowe. This was combon to the could have song his groot.

would tire of. wgan by alluding to Horsman's attack

BY THE LATE

JAMES SHEPHERD PIKE.

11. The British Parliament and Its Leaders

There is no more attractive spot to an American in London than the Houses of Parliament. yet they have very small accommodations for visitors, the Upper House especially, and can only he entered by a pass, or by an order of the presiding officers, or of some member. The House of Lords is the most difficult of access and the least attractive. I went thither by appointment, and was ushered in upon the floor at 5 P. M. a little after the customary hour of meeting. There is not space here for more than thirty or forty persons, and what there is is merely standing room. No seats are furnished. The semicircular steps in the middle of the contracted Area, which lead up to the Queen's Seat, albeit very inconvenient. are used by visitors when they get altogether tired of standing. But there is literally no provision for spectators on the floor, and no more room than affords a convenient way for the peers to enter to their seats.

Yet here the diplomatic corps and such persons as the Lords introduce must make themselves as comfortable as they can. I found at my side a son of Nesselrode, a stout, energetic. close-cropped man, and also the Count de Paris heir to the French throne through the younger Bourbon line. I observed an expression in the countenance of this young man which recalled the fact that he was a lineal descendant of Phillips Egalité. There might

have been a dozen other visitors.

When I entered, Lord Stratford de Redeliffe was speaking -the mortal enemy of the Emperor Nicholas, and more feared by that monarch than any other living man of his day, Suloun de facto for a quarter of a century, and author of the Crimean war, according to Kinglake, who in his late book has fully recorded his praises. He spoke on Poland.

He has a peculiarly English cast of countenance, long in the face, a Roman nose, and a grave expression. His hair is thin and white. his head long and solid-looking, and his figure tall and slender.

After him came Lord Malmesbury, with a series of charges against the Administration on the recent rupture of diplomatic relations with Brazil. He is a man of fifty-five, of ordinary mould, an un-English moustache, with whiskers, and not a fluent speaker. His sepect was that of a very common Commoner. He made out a protty strong case, and was backed by some decisive "hear, hears Russell [formerly Lord John], replied for the Government, under apparent emparrassment. and left untouched some of Lord Maimesbury's salient points.

Thave heard Lord John before but I never saw him show so much agitation as on this

There was a good audience to hear lord Malmesbury, but it thinned out during Lord Russell's rather tame reply; and it finally got very thin when Lord Chelmsford followed to sustain Lord Malmesbury.

Lord Chelmsford, a former Lord Chan-cellor, is another tall, wiry man, with thin black hair, a retreating forehead, and a small head, with a springy manner and fluent elocution. He played the advocate with ability. Able and adroit though he was, he could not ld his audience, and before he got through I found there were but seventeen peers in their seats, and the outsiders nearly all gone. Tought to have said that Lord Brougham followed Lord Stratford de Redeliffe in a few Femarks, in which he referred to American affairs. He afterward came out and said. laughingly, that he could not help putting in word on the United States, and hoped he

speech he left, saying he could not stand it any When Lord Chelmsford had finished, somebody, out of the half dozen peers left, said in a low tone. "I move the House adjourn." presiding officer. Lord Westbury, the Lord Chancellor, who was then walking back and forward in his gown and big wig in front of the woolsack, where he had been sleepily siting for four or five hours, repeated in an underione, "It is moved the House adjourn," and without taking or announcing any vote

would be excused. During Lord Bussell's

the session was ended. The Lord Chancellor proceeded down the hall; an officer of the House at the same inant selzed the mace, surmounted by a crown and another the great seal, enclosed in a bag Something like one side of an old-fashioned pair of saddle bags, and preceded him with these symbols of authority. A third person followed, carrying the train of the Lord Chancellor. In solemn procession the four marched out and moved through numerous pussage ways till they finally turned into the private

room of the presiding officer. It was now DP. M. I think there is even more speaking to empty benches in Parliament than in Congress. For example, a lively debate springs up in the House of Lords between Lord Derby, Lord Bussell, and Lord Chelmsford, duly reported in the Times, on the subject of the iron-clad ms of Laird, built for the Confederates

The debate is conducted by the ablest speakers among the Lords, and is one involving important national consequences, and yet, when it closes, but five members are present; name ly, two of the opposition, Lord Chelmsford and Lord Derby, and three Administration members.

People make a great account of being members of Parliament, and yet this absonce oc-

ours continually.

The fashion of our times is to underrate the House of Lords. Americans especially are prone to a superficial view of its character and affuence, holding that, as it is now dominated by the House of Commons, therefore it is a powerless body. The fact that the House of Commons is the strongest of the two on contested questions does not prove that the House of Lords is not powerful. It must not be forgotten that it not only has its own weight to throw into the scale on all public questions. but it wields, indirectly, a vast influence in the Commons, through a constant force of more than a hundred representatives of the great noble families of the kingdom, who always find their way into the popular branch at every election. It is a well-recognized fact in modern British politics that there are no such popular candidates of the Liberal party even as the youthful scions of the nobility. It s but recently that Capt. Grosvenor of the great family whose head is the Marquis inow Dukel of Westminster ran on the Liberal ticket with John Stuart Mill, to-day the leader of modern thought in Britain. Capt. Grosvenor was elected. John Stuart Mill was defeated. If such be the fate of the strongest mon, what chance have the comparatively unknown aspirants for public honors in competition with a representative of the ancient familie Every such man goes into Parliament at the the candidate is obnoxious, it is difficult to resist the combined influences of family and wealth; and thus the prospective Duke or Ear or Marquis or Baron rides over all obstacles and takes his younger or remoter relatives with him, and becomes a power in the Comions. To contend that the House of Lords an effete body, soon to disappear from the citish system, is to wholly underrate the tre mendous influence and widespread extent of he various social, economic, and political as that uphold it and wall it in. There

will be changes in England as everywhere, but they will be slow in coming to the Lords. Take the thirty-one great governing noble families of England alone. They furnish between ninety and one hundred members of the House of Commons in the shape of sons. rothers, uncles, nephews, sons-in-law, and

brothers-in-law, and these are exclusive of those standing in this relation to the great Irish and Scotch families, who comprise many more. Then add to these the great landed gentry, who though not ennobled, are in sympathy with the noble classes from intermarringes and ancient associations. The family interests of this class are represented by near 175 members. So that in fact the great landowning aristocratic classes of the kingdom have near 300 out of the grand total of 050 members of which the Commons are comgive an adequate conception of the influence they wield, acting in conjunction with the hereditary peers. It is not prodizious wealth and ancient privileges that are hereby represented. This body is the con-servator of the ancient habits, customs. and prejudices of the kingdom. Like all islanders, the Briton has great espril du corps, and is proud of his own ways and jealous of the ways of others. We see reforms going on in England and think they denote great changes in the future. But when closely ex-

amined they will be found to have been the growth of a slow development making its own progress on sure and well-tested foundations. However it may seem outwardly, the true conservative instinct guides and controls them all-an instinct which regards the exist ing system with veneration and respect, and whose foundations it does not intend to weak-The prevailing sentiment of England is to-day as conservative in regard to its own po litical institutions as it over was. And there is no existing party or class at all formidable either in numbers or intelligence that meditates any organic changes. THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

The room in the Parliament buildings de

voted to the House of Commons is an oblong hall of comparatively small dimensions, being about 45 feet in width and twice that in length. A little removed from one end rises an Imposing Speaker's seat. Directly in front of that extends a long table down the middle of the hall, 15 or 20 feet long. On either side are five rows of open benches, each a little elevated as they go to the rear. These are crossed midway by a "gangway" and cut off some 10 or 15 feet before reaching the far end of the hall from the Speaker's chair. The and for some seats for speciators made per fashion, the front row being devoted to the use of the peers, and the two back rows to such strangers as are introduced on the floor. These seats will accommo late thirty-two per sons in all, and this is the only provision made for visitors below. Of course these scats are highly prized, and they are penuriously award ed in turn, to gentlemen who are supposed to have claims to them. But one or two visitations are usually deemed sufficient to exhaust the claims of an individual, who is then expected to vacate and make room for

lions stand at the door eager for entrance into this august body. The Parliamentary benches will only seat about 120 or 130 members, leaving the residue of the 050 persons composing the body to crowd the aisles and areas, or galleries, whenever they desire to be present. Strange as it may seem, the room was constructed with the view to seat only the average number of members in attendance. Whenever there is more. the excess must bestow themselves as they are bestable. The hall was constructed as a purely business place, and not as a nouse of entertainment for audiences, although it is at times the most entertaining place in the

some other visitor to that favored haven.

Nothing short of official dignity would be al-

lowed to usurp one of those thirty-two seats

night after night for three or four weeks in

succession when London with her three mil-

lions and Groat Britain with her thirty mil-

kingdom. Up stairs a narrow gallery runs lengthwise on each side, which is reserved for members and for the families of the peers. Another runs across the end over the Speaker's chair. This is occupied by the reporters and other wise, according to the Speaker's pleasure Directly over this, in the very top, is a gallery faced with a ciose grating, where female vis-itors are permitted. Their presence is detected by their undefined forms dimiy deseried from the floor. They present the idea

of being the imprisoned hours of the place.

At the opposite and is another small gallery, and this alone is open to the public. It holds but a handful. Each person must take his turn, and people may not repeat their visits too frequently, the privilege being highly esteemed and carefully guarded.

On the front benches on the floor, facing the table on the left as the visitor faces the Speaker, sit the members composing the existing Ministry. Here used to sit Lord Palmerston, with his hat down over his eyes and his arms folded on his breast, while the debates rogressed, seeming to be asleen. wars found wide awake if he was attacked. And here sits Mr. Gladstone, with his books and papers in a little box under his seet, and ontaining also a bottle and glass, out of which as the night wears away he may be seen sometimes refreshing himself. Opposite the Ministerial tenches, across the table, are those of their opponents.

Of the 150 members of the Commons we have already seen that near 300 are representatives of the land-owning, privileged, here ittary and ennobled classes. There are about 100 barristers, and rather over that number who have served in the army and navy, and rather less than 160 who represent the banking, merantile, and manufacturing interests.

MR. GLADSTONE IN 1809. Mr. Gladstone, now Premier, is held by some o be the first orator in England; but this estimate would not have the approval of the

House of Commons, He is polished, gentlemanly, holds rigidly to he proprieties, but is purnacious and irritable, and does not shun a logomachic combat, hristian though he be.

Ho exhausts himself in his position of leader of the House. His temperament is nervous and sensitive, and the strain of his place tells on his physique, and, as Mr. Bright not long ago remarke i, will probably shorten his life. Mr. Gladstone is a very difficult speaker to follow: His niceties of expression balle all but the closest listeners. Wee he to the critic who undertakes to find fault with anything Mr. Gladstone has said in Parliament, unless he have made a prayerful study of his re-marks and given every possible form of interpretation of which they are susceptible. And even after the critic has done all this, it is ten

to one that, when he has finished. Mr. Glad-stone will rise, and with the most importurbable air declare that never was a speaker so totally misconceived as he had been, and then proceed to demonstrate the facts, and always with measurable success. It is thus that in listening to Mr. Gladstone's polished refinements of language, with their ever accompanying limitations and qualifica-

do not understand him, or in admiration of courself that you do. Mr. Gladstone has a flat though massive head, with a powerful jaw. He is deficient in hope and animal spirits. His shoulders are straight and square, his chest roomy, and the limbs lithe. His mien is nervous and active.

tions, that the interest in him and his subject

escapes, in terturing apprehensions that you

and his gait quick and unpretentious. He dodges about with schoolboy activity. and lolls on his seat like any American. As we have observed, he is infinitely subtle and evasive when it is necessary. It is impossible to pin him beyond his power of extrication. He unties his knots and twists himself clear in a war that would do credit to Stodare or the

Davenport brothers.
In advocating an allowance for the Princess Helena on the occasion of her approaching nuptials he was guilty of the blunder of calling her the eldest daughter of her Maiesty, quite forgetting the Crown Princess of Prussta. An ordinary man would either have acknowledged the blunder, or said nothing. Not so Mr. Gladstone. The next evening he rose to an explanation, in which he attempted to show that while he seemed to make a mistake, yet in reality he did not! Ar. Gladstone has the same quies, nervous, scholarly gait that marks Mr. Hill. Dothecom

to have their vitality informing every part, a vitality which cannot but by annihilation dis-

to have their vitality informing every part, a vitality which cannot but by annihilation discontinuous striking speeches; but there is ever apparent in the man a great weight over and above the speeches, thomselves. Strong reserves are indicated.

But Lord Stanley is no orator. He is only an intellectual person. He speaks with an obstructed utterance, but with clearness and commands unqualined attention. So far as gesture is concerned, he is almost as motionless as Mr. Bright. But no hearer can fall to recognize his admirable mental poles, or to be impressed with the stores of his rnowledge, or the aptress of their application. Then his utterances are aways condensed and always brief. He lacks animation, fervor, and symmathy. Yet he is a manimum overy one wishes in hear, and of those hearing no one wishes him to afor. He does not animonize his hearers. He convinces them. What he says as so full, so plain, so just, so reasonable, that no one feels disposed to contest P. He exacts concurrence in his internance and is reputed not to care for manorize his hearing and induces in no relaxations. He detests the drudgery of woman either. He is abortions and induces in no relaxations. He detests the drudgery of woman either. He is abortions and induces in no relaxations. He detests the drudgery of woman either. He is abortions and induces in no relaxations. Let laphael do the painting, said Michael Angelo: I will not trouble myself with it. He will do what he pleases; he will do nothing else. But if a Tory Ministry is to be formed, or a condition Ministry. Lord Stanley mast go in. His weight, his knowledge, his judgment, his sagacity cannot be spared. His conduct of the Department of Foreign Affairs under his father's nate Ministry was at once prudent and brilliant at a very difficult crisis.

He bears a strong personal resemblance to his celebrated father, who was an admirable orator, a man of whom the son is reported as audaciously saying in his your it requires little foresignt to predict that he will be great to man

MC. DISCARLI.

when they are up, and they are saying when they are up, and they don't know what they have said when they sit down."

Mr. Disraell is a constant altendant at the House, and is always to be seen sitting in his accustomed piace, in a motionless and stereotyped attitude, with one leg thrown across the other, wearing the inswitable light colored pantaloons, having the same stoid and melancholy expression of fare and immobility of feature. A man of acknowledged and unequivocal genius, but reported to be destitute of the moral sense, and ignorant of his own destitution.

Whenever he speaks he emits a flash, sometimes duzzling, sometimes lurid. Wit he has but no humor; and to the fun of Lord Palmerston, always so welcome to the house, he is an utfor stranger. But when all is said, he is one of the few wonderful men of the body; his capacity to acquire and his genius to embeddish being alike marvellous.

This apparently impressive man, who sits like a statue in the House with a countenance sorrowful and distraught, asvershows a shade of emotion; is no sooner on list legs than he is suddenly transformed into the most lithe and animated of speakers that the wonderful mantalous, and harries out his words we distribute the most lithe and animated of speakers that the suddenly their struggle to escape.

He thus talks fast without being voluble. Then his mental action is as ague as that of his body, and he meets an Interruption with the quickness of lightning. He shines in his retoris, and calls down the cheers of those who dislike him most. The true Briton likes the man who smits his adversaries hip and thigh. Mr. Distael is direct enemies are of his own household. The old Tories who train under his leadership, whether they will or no, cannot abide him. They for his retoris, and calls down the cheers of those who man and rolling the cannon and his brunered his particular and his particular and his cannon and his particular and his particular and his particular and his cannon and his particular and his particular and his can

leviews' he referred to one exhibiting, provincial arrogance and precipitate self-complacency." The old English skeptics and the French encyclopædists were beforehand with it all; and, though the French Revolution has some and gone and dynastic changes and changes of opinion and of manners have taken place, so that nothing that now is is like what it was a century and more ago, yet Smal and Calvary still stand unmoved amid the surgest of the sea that has drowned almost everything else." The churchmen and Bishopst were delighted with their extemporized champion and hugged the great Tory leader to their bosoms, who that day had aloned for a thousand shertcomings. So true is it that the starkle of genius viviles and irradiates everything it touches.

Not only among strangers, but among the

thing it touches.

Not only among strangers, but among the habitude of Parliament, there is always an enger dosire to listen to Mr. Bright, and when he gives signs of dosiring to speak, the House lills up and everybody else snowline. He is never verbose, but always comes direct to the point, with fresh and original bless conveyed in precise and harmonious periods. Then he has a charming vein of humor overflowing a composed and dignified manner, which in its constant and quiet play is a source of endless entertainment to his hearers, it is a feature in which he is unrivalled by any of his great occupers in the flouse, and is tho one which most grouses their publicay, at the same time that it commands their unequivocal admiration. At a recent detaite on what would seem to be the dryest of subjects, namely. Church rates, the House was cramed in every corner. It is one of those questions of British debate which involve in deep and widespread popular interest in every parish in the kingdom, and in this l'aritament more than many others of greater intrinsic consequence. On such occasions there are often as many votes thrown as on questions of the greatest intrinsic consequence. On such occasions there are often as many votes thrown as on questions of the greatest national importances. The debate had been conducted with great ability on the parish in the kingdom, and in this Tarlument more than many others of greater intrinsic consequence. On such occasions there are often as many votes thrown as on questions of the greatest national importance. The debate had been conducted with great ability on the Conservative side by Mr. Walpole of the famous historic family of that name. Mr. Gladstone had also made a characteristic speech. The interest was at its lealt; a number of gentlemen were eager to speak, and several had rison simultaneously. Mr. Bright was a little hate in getting up, but as soon as it was seen he was on his feet, instant exclamations were heard of: "Mr. Bright. Mr. Bright." At this overwhody class sat down by common consent, and the Speaker awarded the floorto him. He began in a quiet conversational way, which he held with slight exceptions to the class. But he had scarcely opened his mouth herore the House broke into a hearty laugh. This was simply because for remarked that he was sorry to see that the Chancellar of that ke was sorry to see that the Chancellar of the Kachener, Mr. Gladstone, was not in his seaf, and he did not know if he wantle come hads.

The House was ready for his accustomed quiet humor, even when he did not mean to be humorous. Everybody had been saying that the Chancellar was doing as usual, handly, talking one way while going to vote another and the House thought Mr. Bright was entire to show how completely Mr. Bright was "en rapport" with his audience. He went along at an easy pace, through his remarks, dropping a few pleasantries by the way, which everyhody seemed to be more than content to take at their full value.

His ideas were what are called "radical," that is to say, sensible, but his tone and manner were gentle and persumsive, from an unrefending clearness and simplicity. His success though his remarks dropping a few pleasantries by the way which everyhody seemed to be more than content to take at their full value.

His ideas were what are called "radical," that is to say, sensible, but he single wha

present member of the liquise of Lords, who could have song his groom or his butter to the Commons, if he had chosen, in place of Mr. Lowe. This was combut to very close quarters. It was a bomb thrown into the camp of the enemy. A deep growt of impression arose from the Tory braches. The assemblely helore so harmonious, seemed now saddenly to separate into two rival came. This last assault was as killing to Lowe it was exasperating to the Tories. But there was no help for it. Not a word had been aftered by a swage mutter. At. Bright's victims, seemed now to be past rebair, and the feeling was has rising into one of commiseration for them. He had ground over them like an icolera, and no one wished to see them manged any further. He turned from them and resumed his argument. During the remainder of the long seesion which followed notther of thom referred to him again.

The next day the whole country mag with the speeck. London is so completely the control and sounding board of the kingdom that a thow struck there reverbeates throughout the empire. In the papers, at the clubs and hotels, on the sirecets, everywhere, Mr. Bright's aposeh was in everybody's mouth.

For a week and more the columns of the newspapers and the pages of the illustrated fournits were coernied with matter drawn from this "Adullam" speech. And still later, at the hustings of the general Tariamentary conting more one price with a disclosing the difference between sharp thrusts of temper open wit and the steady, solid, repeated blows of a powerful debater. (20 be continued.)

to his speeches by such men as Mr. Disraell and Mr. Gladstone seund year great, coming from such masters in the art of orador. But her recognize in Mr. Bright powers very different from their own, the larish endowments of nature, which are beyond the reach of sacra and usefulon, and which they doubless that their fown hoasted attainments.

In that natural grace and east flow which are the great Preacher's tilt, and in that gental humor which diffuses itself over the topics he treats, they have nothing in common with Mr. Bright, and they leed how much these gifts would adorn their own composition. Bright for the powers they lack and which count for so much in the man who aims at high oratory. Mr. Bright is an orator by nature Mr. Disraell and Mr. Gladstone are the orators of art. It will not do vall Mr. Gladstone is its mule not superfor, sechage not equal to Disraell in native scenius, he is yet superior to him in fluency and instant command of language, but as we have already suggested. Mr. Gladstone, they tended him at his work with great and miration, and are willing to believe we will not enter the property of th SOUTHERN WOMEN IN WAR TIMES. sebold Memories of the Confede BY MRS, JEFFERSON DAVIS. When this peine forte et dure began to afflict

once demonstrated to the world. The barbors were closed by the blockade. No supplies of clothing could be imported. The time came when the stock of cloth, shoes, nedicines, machinery—indeed of almost everything necessary to civilized people -was nearly exhausted. The South had proved agriculture to be the most profitable employment. and had never fostered manufactures; besides, her operative classes were not suited to the care of machinery. Now the people found themselves confronted with new problems which they must learn to solve. All these needs must be supplied by the women

The store each family possessed themselves, of quining and such other drugs as were needful for the diseases of a warm climate, was gradually relinquished for the use of the sol diers. Replenishment was impossible. Quinine had been proclaimed by the blockaders contraband of war."

The women turned undaunted to the indigenous materia medica. Decections of willow bark, of dewberry root, orange flowers and leaves, red popper tea, and other "tisanes'

took the place of the drugs.

The sheep were sheared; the wool was cleansed, carded, and soun in the house. Small looms were set up, and the warp adjusted under the eye of the practical weaver-this being the mistress generally. All the clothes for the plantation, as well as some cloth to exchange for other commodities, was woven for the winter use. In winter the cotton clothes were made for summer. Pretty homospun checks, brown, black, blue, or red and white, were manufactured for the ladies' and children's frocks. The ladies spun the wool and knitted the stockings and socks their children and husbands were, also many for the soldiers. When the longing for the silk stockings, habitually used, pressed upon refined women. the old pieces of black silk were picked to 'frazzle" and spun to make stockings and



MRS. JEFFERSON DAVIS.

gloves for themselves and their daughters Said one, putting out her nattily-clad slender little feet, "I could not bear to wear coarse stockings-my husband takes such pride in my small feet."

Towels and sheets were spun from cotton to replace the house linen which had been cut into bandages, or scraped into lint for the surgeons in the field. One handsome young woman, the daughter of an ex-Minister to Spain, rises before me out of the haze of bygone years, stepping lightly to and fro, winding bandages on the spindle of her wheel and talking pleasantly to her visitors while her patriotic mother sat by, cutting up the table linen which she had treasured for forty years. The daughter showed great callous knots on her shapely hands made by scraping lint, and mentioned them with an expression of gratitude to God that she could procure material

After some day and the annual series of the decame Mr. Bright's turn to enter into the decame Mr. Bright's turn to enter into the decame Mr. Bright's turn to enter into the decame Mr. But first came some preliminary speaking.

Mr. Gladstone enlivened the great crowd which the occasion had attracted by an extraordinary full. Speaking of a vote of the House on a previous night he observed: "All the speakers on that occasion either supported the measure or were silent."

Mr. Lowis, the present Chancetlor of the Exchanger, delivered on this memorable occasion his great speech arainst the Reform bill: a speech which, though levelled against the party with which he is now associated and or which he is a conspicuous leader, did much by its force and audity to throw him forward into his present rosition.

Mr. Lowe had praviously attacked Mr. Bright in a manner which incensed the latter, and which Mr. Bright subsequently characterized indirectly in the House as "insolont and offensite," producing thereby cries of "Order, order," and "Name, name." But at this time Mr. Lowe did not indulge in personalities.

After some other speaking Mr. Bright rose, and this was the signal for a general hum of scatisfaction and a softling int sents, as for so much work. A general officer's wife called to see the wife of the President, and brought her, as the most acceptable present, a paper pattern of a glove, like those she herself wore, beautifully embroidered, and exactly fitted to her delicate hands. This paper pattern is still extant, and very precious to the recipient; it was very useful in providing the President's whole family with presentable gloves made from the sleeves and breast of an old Confe lerate uniform, and the cast-off black cloth garments of the gentlemen of the family.

Ladies platted exquisite straw hats, and

learned every brand except that of Leghorn; the birds of the country furnished feathers for their adornment.

Where new companies or battalions organzed, for which flazs were ne and sweethearts of the men sacrifical their best slik frocks to make the flags; with cunning embroidery they emblazoned them in such royal style that they are wondrously

parened corn or wheat, and parened carried were used.

All the coffee, tea, white or brown sugar and every other searce luxury was sent to the soldiers. "Real coffee and sure enough tea."

were for the sick and wounded, not for people in health.

The strong tension upon the nerves of the woman was not relieved by pleasant new books or magazines. The newspapers were annuals of ardent endeavor, some triumphs, but also of sorrow, wounds, and dea h.

During the war the first volume of "Les Miserables" was amuggled into the Confederacy. The educated women eagerly read it between stitches. The more ignorant men and women read the title and one at least said. "Now I wonder who has took to writing about Lee's miserables! We knowed they wan't comfortable, but what's the use of tellin' it everywhere!" the women their powers of endurance were at

everywhere!"
All work and no play began to tell upon our nervously organized women. Nome of them turned for relief, when any of the soldiers were home, to reunions called, from the absence of any refreshment save cold water,

were home, to reunions called, from the absence of any refreshment save cold water, "starvation parties."

To these came the young officers, who dance as gnyly as though there were no serviced ranks of the enemy confronting them to do battle to the death, perhaps on the morrow. There were charades, private theatricals, and tableaux. One lovely young woman, who has since bloomed into an authoress of much renown, personated a marble Niobe embracing her stricken children, and the scuiptors of antiquity have left us no more beautiful statue. The hospital nurses were largely women, and mostly ladies.

What they did is recorded in the "book of life," but mortal pen would fail to deplet their loving service amid the horrors of mistary hospitals near the battlefields. The food was generally prepared by private families: delicate breads, strong broths, or ounces of the precious "real tea and coffee" were daily taken in baskets, and the soothing voices of the nurses could be heard whispering hopes of victory and home, or marmaring camforting texts from the Scriptures, while the sufficers were fed, or cooling lotions poured upon the dressing of their wounds.

I wish it were possible to give the names of these elevated women who ministered to the wounded, soothed the sixty and received the little tokens and last messages for their absent families. The list would be too long here, but their names are household words in every Southern home—and "when shall their glery fade."

absent families. The list would be too long here but their names are bigusehold words in every Southern home—and "when shall their glery fade?"

How can justice be rendered to the wives of the common soldiers? On these women fell the burden of deprivation unheard of. In silence they sowed and reaped the land, clothed and tended their children, buried them when they sank under want and exposure, or thomselves lay down in solitude and died.

It was the exception when the men in the field knew the trials to which their wives were subjected. The women were vocal in hope, silent in despair. The wives of the common soldiers labored and sorrowed without the expectation of earthly honor or clat. For if the men of their household perished in battle it was only "collective glory" acquired, for the arms, for their cause, not for themselves; a nameless grave their share.

When the last said days of the struggle drew nigh and every heart was cast down, the women were the most cheerful.

When the young and old non-combatants were summoned to man the trenches there were no toars and replaings. Such preparations as were practicable for the comfort of the aged or infirm citizen guards were quietly made, and the men were despatched with as much cheer as trembling lips could summon.

At last, when Gen, Lee's half-starved army must be withdrawn from before the overwhelming force of the enemy, he sent an effect to inform Mr. Davis of the fact. The meases was delivered in St. Paul's thurch during morning service, where the President had gone to pray for his people.

The congregation divined the purport of the despatch, and, though they expected, as the outcome of it, that their homes would be burned and the city laid waste, there was no panic, no plon for protection. The women gathered about Mr. Davis and said: "Leave us to our fate if you can save the country. Perhaps some time you may win Richmond back; but if not, we know you have done your best, and you must not grieve over us."

In this spirit our women met delent, starvation l

ROYAL COMMISSIONERS' REPORT. Statistics of Industry and Finance of the United Kingdom

BEAUVOIR HOUSE, Mississippi

The latest statistics gathered for the Royal Commission on Labor of the United Kingdom. recently presented by the compilers and classiflers, and soon to be published as the fifth volume of the series of reports on the industries of the kingdom, contain much interesting information concerning the average rate of wages, and the total earnings and savings working people of Great Britain and Ireland, and the losses by strikes and lockouts. ogether with much of general interest about incomes, investments, and savings of the country in general. In the final compilation and classification for publication the statistics are to be compared with similar data from other countries, where it is available. At present the Commission has not been able to secure much information of this kind from foreign countries.

There are employed in regular industry in the United Kingdom, in round numbers, 7,300,000 mer., 2,500,000 women, 1,700,000 males under 15 years of age, and 1,200,000 girls, a total of 13,200,000 persons. Thirtythree separate occupations are enumerated in the returns which aggregate these figures, but in presenting the figures the Assistant Secretary of the Board of Trade regretted "that the statistics had not been extended to the lower middle classes." which makes rather indeter-

France the exercise earnings of the working classes are made been than in Great Britain.

Walle in America hie average is much higher. Immigration a pays a not unimortant part in the laters of a corolin Great Britain. The number of monigrates who came to Great Britain in 1841 intelliging to stay in the country was 21, seen in diding a great many Russian and Friend and the light to stay in the country was 21, seen in diding a great many Russian and Friend and the light to stay in the country was 21, seen in diding a great many Russian and Friend and the light to say in the country was 21, seen in diding a great many Russian and Friend and Color of the Great many Russian and Friend and

AN OPPRESSIVE PEACE EUROPE LIVING THE LIFE OF CANTONMENT. Industry Inert and Progress Stagnated-None Dare Work for Fear of Call to Fight-Irritation Bred of Militarism.

From the London Specture Two accounts have reached London this

week as to military preparations on the Continent, which may prove to have even a historia Importance. According to one, the Austrian Government and people have alike determined that they will not increase the numbers of their soldiers or the expenditure on their army, believing that they have already nearly reached the limit of exertion, and had better wait for the last supreme effort until war neine ally breaks out. According to another, the moterate leaders of the German Liberals are earnestly entreating the Government not to dissolve on the Army bill lest the Emperor should be defeated, but rather to seek some comprise mise, or even withdraw the measure. The country, these Liberals had previously said, is say of sacrifices. Even should both these accounts be a little exaggerated, and some further our cessions be made to militarism, they indicate a general opinion among persons not hostile to Governments in the abstract that the great military States of Central Europe base reached the limit of war-like preparation in peace time, and must henceforward await events with all the fortitude they may. They can polish their weapons, acquire better arms, or avail themselves of any new inventions; but they can utilize no more of their population until war actually arrives. This decision mercover, had previously been announced by Italy, which, indeed, pressed by her financial burdens, had even slightly reduced her forces, and revised, with a view to economy, all the arrangements for a sudden mobilization of her troops, The whole of central Europe, therefore, may he reported to have agreed that they will not invade and can do no more to render themselves safe against invasion. Nearly the same may be said of the threatening powers upon their borders. France is as completely armed as she can bear; has, indeed, reached the end of the conscription possible in peace time, has finished her fortresses, and in spite of herestrordinary wealth which the rest of the world trordinary wealth which the rest of the world even yet hardly realizes, is most unwilling, before war is actually upon her, to increase the burdens on her people. Bussia is in almost the same position. Her finances are strained to the last point, and it is doubtful whether she would gain strongth by accumulating more of her army in the West, where already the increased cost of food, forage, and harraces accommodation is soverely felt by the Military Department, which still requires large sums to perfect its supplies of scientific munitions of war.

If this is an accurate account—and we ledleve it to rest upon the best information—the whole Continent has at last reached a position

Military Department, which still requires large sums to perfect its supplies of scientific munitions of war.

If this is an accurate account—and we helieve it to rest upon the best information—the whole Continent has at last reached a position in which an armost peace, excessively but not unendurably costly, may last for years, perhaps even for a generation. The rulers are afraid to break it, and the peoples are not even inclined. The former understand the magnitude of the risks to be run, the equality of the two great parties into which Europe is divided, and the dillicuity of discovering the military genius which alone could secure durable victory to one side or the other. They have to pick for the most part among untried man may, if he is a failure, bring a State to destruction not speedily to allow even of his supersossion. The latter understand the horribe carnage which will mark the next campaign: and though they will face it if attacked, they do not urge their rulers to begin, are rather inclined, indeed, to praise their wisdom when they close up questions which might load to war. This is a kind of peace, and one would say a prior: that, except as regards taxation, it was a satisfactory kind. The nations are not seriously hurt by the necessity of passing their lads through the military mill, in which they learn how to obey, how to face danger, and how to act together in strict association under men more enlightened than themselves, Military training, when it is not cruel, is good training; and in most armies the disposition toward cruelty is kept under strict repression. There can, moreover, hardly be a stronger or more permanent basis for peace than four of one's enemy, or doubt whether any toward required the subjects; the latter will not ever great the review may be broken, distances may be overcome, the absence of pretexts may suddenly be made good, but a good healthy dread of the fight must keep the armost be finished in a few months. Industry does not languish, and enterprise is not dead, but the c

way of storage of water, time for making the interior of Africa fully accessible, but the nations shrink back, and with money choking all markets, say they would rather wait for a more assured peace. The quiet is real, as

make sweet dates of the same activated with the same and sweet bears of the same activated of the same activat